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dead or in prison, and who are not allowed ration cards, feel themselves lucky if they can find employment as governesses, maids, or cooks in a Soviet family. Most of them have been educated abroad and, hence, are able to teach the boys various languages and show the women and girls how to dress and how to act in society. For their part, the Soviets are not stingy and pay better for services than members of the upper Albanian hierarchy.

Soviet officers and officials obtain through these Albanian women jewels, clothing richly embroidered in gold, old weapons, and other valuable items. They also learn where to buy marengos /Napoleonic Italian gold coins/, the sale of which is prohibited. At Shkoder, an Albanian, Kil Abati, was shot for trying to buy two marengos, but if the police find that a Soviet is the purchaser, the matter is simply dropped.

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